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# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Sitka Area Office  
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Date: January 28, 2013  
Time: 5:15 p.m.

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#### **2013 SOUTHEAST ALASKA DIRECTED PACIFIC COD FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sitka . . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today that the directed fishery for Pacific cod will close in the waters of Icy Strait, Port Frederick, northern Chatham Strait, southern Lynn Canal, northern Stephens Passage, and Taku Inlet at 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, January 30, 2013. The closure area includes waters of the Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI) Subdistrict that are east of 136°00.00' W. longitude, north of 58°00.00' N. latitude and south of the latitude of Pt. Bridget (Figure 1). This area is defined as all waters of groundfish statistical areas 355801, 355802, 345803, 345801, 345802, and a portion of 355830.

The guideline harvest range for Pacific cod in the NSEI and SSEI Subdistricts combined is 750,000 – 1,250,000 round pounds. To date, over 346,000 round pounds of Pacific cod have been landed from these statistical areas during the 2012/2013 fishing season and we are approaching our target harvest level for that geographic region. This area is being closed to distribute the directed fishery effort throughout the remaining open areas of NSEI and SSEI. This area will re-open to directed fishing for Pacific cod on July 1, 2013.

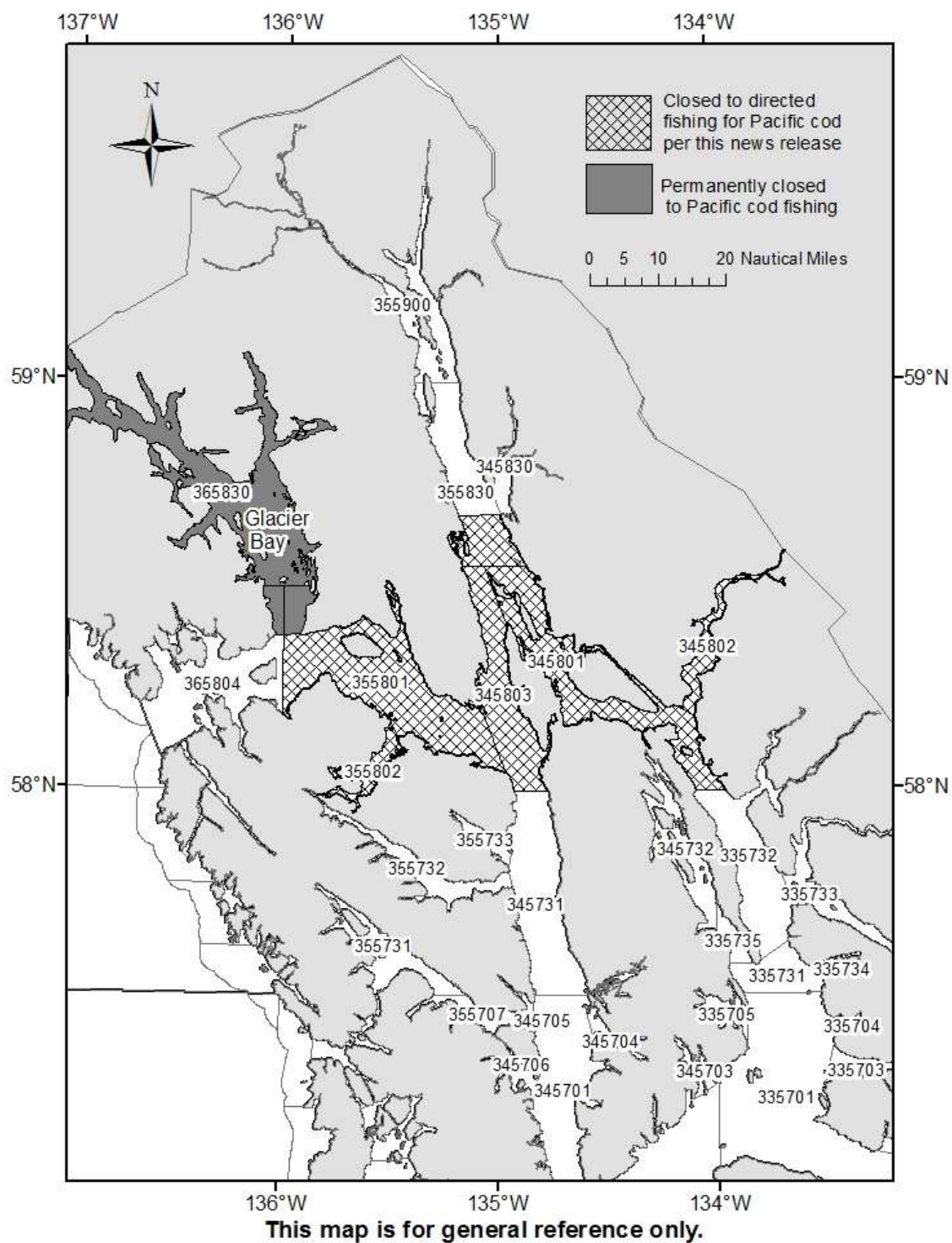
This closure affects only the directed Pacific cod fishery. Pacific cod taken as bycatch in other fisheries may still be retained in these statistical areas as permitted by established bycatch allowances.

Fishermen are advised that Pacific cod area closures may occur on short notice. Closures notices will be announced by news release and on the United States Coast Guard "Notice to Mariners" report and the National Weather Service broadcast. Updates of area closures will also be announced on the Groundfish Hotline at 907-747-4882.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1G0513.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>

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ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220



**Figure 1.**